



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: **McBrearty et al.** §
Serial No.: **09/881,921** § Group Art Unit: **2131**
Filed: **June 14, 2001** § Examiner: **Vaughan, Michael R.**
For: **Apparatus and Method for** § Attorney Docket No.: **AUS920010388US1**
Encrypting and Decrypting Data with §
Incremental Data Validation §

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 21, 2004.

By:

Lourdes T. Perez

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

In response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.